

REMEMBERING MR. JOSHUA
RABORN

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Mr. Joshua Raborn of Victorville, CA who passed away on October 16, 2013 after a fatal motorcycle accident.

A dedicated public servant, Joshua served in the United States Marine Corps as a Lance Corporal before becoming a firefighter with the United States Forest Service. He held the position of Lead Water Tender Operator on the San Bernardino National Forest, Mountain Ranger District.

Joshua started his career in 2008 as a seasonal firefighter with the Big Bear Hotshoots. In 2009, he was admitted into the Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program before entering Basic Academy number 49 and the Advanced Academy in 2010. After converting to full-time in January of 2011, Joshua spent the remainder of his career on the Mountaintop Ranger District as the lead water Tender Operator at Deerlick Station number 12 in Hesperia.

In a very special way I would like to extend my most sincere thoughts and prayers to Joshua's wife Kristen, his four kids, and his parents. His work, legacy, and dedication will never be forgotten by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

HONORING ENZO ANTHONY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Enzo Anthony. Enzo is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 41, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Enzo has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Enzo has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Enzo has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Enzo led a reforestation effort, planting over 900 saplings across four acres at the Circle O Tree Farm and Quail Preserve in Marceline, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Enzo Anthony for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY'S
RECIPIENTS OF OPERATION RECOGNITION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a group of individuals—heroes—who are receiving the recognition and honor they deserve for their service to our country. Operation Recognition is operated by the Riverside County Office of Education with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services. The program awards high school diplomas to veterans who missed completing high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or for those who were interned in WWII Japanese-American relocation camps.

A recognition ceremony will be held on November 12, 2013, for the following individuals who received their high school diplomas through Operation Recognition:

Austin Elmer Lee Acord; David M. Barnes; Kenneth James Becker; Raymond Frederick Carter; Robert Dale Cloyd; Michael William Divil; Alan F. Gonsalves; Larry James Lyon; Cruz Martinez; Frank Ramirez Rodriguez; Frank Sandwell; Samson Charles Trevino; and Ruben David Zamora.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to all the above recipients for their service and sacrifice. I salute all of these individuals and congratulate them on receiving their high school diploma.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF
RUNAWAY AND FOSTER YOUTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in my former life, I was a criminal court judge for 22 years and spent 8 years as a prosecutor in Texas.

Child abusers are the worst criminals in our society.

But too often the justice system ignores the victim.

So Congressman JIM COSTA (D-CA) and I founded the Victims' Rights Caucus.

The VRC is currently focused on combating human trafficking.

This topic is of particular interest to me because my hometown of Houston, Texas is unfortunately a hub for this despicable crime.

Many are not aware that modern day slavery occurs right here in the United States.

The problem is very real, especially amongst vulnerable youth in the child welfare system.

This is Anna's story which Shared Hope International shared with me.

After Anna's family passed away, she was placed in the foster care system at the age of three.

She was shuffled from home to home until age 12 when she was finally adopted by a loving family.

But Anna began hanging out at the corner store without her family knowing.

There, she met a person whom she thought she could trust.

Little did she know that the person she met at the corner store was not actually a friend at all.

One day, when she got into a fight with her parents, she called her "friend" from the store, who promptly picked her up.

Anna didn't know that this call would change her life forever.

Her "friend" was actually a trafficker.

He was violent.

He beat her and sold her body.

The emotional, physical and sexual abuse continued.

He threatened her family's lives if she called the police.

She was told the police would arrest her.

And that's exactly what happened.

The police did arrest her.

She was treated like a criminal, not a victim.

Anna became convinced that her family no longer wanted her.

She felt helpless and scared.

After almost four years of this unspeakable abuse, Anna eventually escaped and was reunited with her family.

Through strength, a resilient spirit, and with the help of her mother, Anna vowed to make a difference one victim at a time.

She now has a ministry for sex trafficking survivors and runs an outreach program for at-risk youth.

Unfortunately, Anna's story is not unique.

The scars from the foster care system stayed with her and made her vulnerable to trafficking.

Many foster youth have experienced neglect, physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse.

These factors make children more susceptible to trafficking.

The child welfare system has tremendous problems and one major challenge is to not only put a roof over a child's head, but to instill values—like self-worth—in each child.

Child sex predators try to steal the soul of their victim when they are assaulted.

I will soon introduce the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act with Congresswoman MALONEY. THE COMPANION WILL BE OFFERED BY SENATOR CORNYN and Senator WYDEN.

This bill will create a grant program to help State and local governments develop and implement comprehensive victim-centered programs.

The bill creates a "Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund" at the Treasury, financed through fines on persons convicted of human trafficking and child exploitation crimes, which can be used to fund support programs for victims of human trafficking.

Criminals will literally pay for their crime and for the system they have created.

Included in the bill are a number of other provisions to ensure victims receive justice and traffickers and buyers are prosecuted.

In this country we have 5000 shelters . . . For animals, according to the ASPCA.

These shelters are great.

I got my Dalmatians from a shelter.

But we have less than 300 beds for domestic minor sex trafficking victims according to a recent survey by Shared Hope International.

We must have facilities to rescue and restore these victims.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act builds upon the End Sex Trafficking Act, that